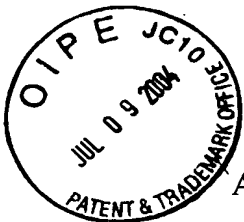


4' 3761 ✓



Docket No.: KCC-15,796

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: James Hongxue WANG et al.

Serial No.: 10/036,746

Filing Date: 21 December 2001

Title: NONABSORBENT SURGE LAYER
HAVING DISCRETE REGIONS OF
SUPERABSORBENT AND METHOD FOR
MAKING

Customer No.: 35844

Group No.: 3761

Examiner:
Michele M. Kidwell

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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JUL 14 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 09 June 2004, detailing a restriction requirement, please amend the subject Patent Application as follows.

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on

06 July 2004

06 July 2004
Date

[Signature]
Signature